

BUILDING ON MOMENTUM: WARD 6 MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Amidon-Bowen Parents, We Want to Hear from Every One of You!

Middle school is critical to preparing students for college. Ensuring that families have quality middle school options is one of our top priorities. Over the past few months, we have engaged parents and the school community to identify how to best support and strengthen our middle schools in Ward 6, including Jefferson. We took all of the information we heard and developed a *draft plan* to improve middle school options in Ward 6.

Amidon-Bowen Elementary School's destination middle school is Jefferson, so all Amidon-Bowen students are guaranteed a spot at Jefferson beginning in 6th grade. Below are a few highlights from our proposal that impact Jefferson Middle School.

- **We will rebuild the academic program at Jefferson to challenge all students**
 - Offer advanced courses in math for students who are ready, with an emphasis on Algebra and Geometry for high school credit
 - Offer world language for high school credit, allowing students to enroll in higher level languages in Grade 9
- **We will launch a 6th Grade Academy in school year 2011-2012 with 100 students**
 - Use school year 2010-2011 as a planning year to set clear expectations for incoming students and to recruit a founding Academy leader
 - Establish new culture and environment that is focused on excellence
- **We will establish the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IB-MYP) in school year 2011-2012**
 - The IB-MYP emphasizes development of the whole student while specifically emphasizing communication skills and international-mindedness
 - Capitalize on the continuum of IB programming from Jefferson Middle School to Eastern High School, which will implement the IB High School Program
- **Jefferson, Stuart-Hobson, and Eliot-Hine Middle Schools will feed to the brand new Eastern High School in school year 2011-2012**

To view the full proposal, please visit our website: <http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/building-on-momentum>

Tell us what you think!

Your feedback will inform the development of our final plan. Please take a few minutes to respond to the questions on the back of this sheet and return it to your child's school.

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Your feedback will inform the development of our final plan. Please return the completed questionnaire to your child's school by **Tuesday, June 22nd**.

1. Do you feel that the proposed changes put Jefferson on the path to success?

☐ 1 (Not at all) ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 (Very much)

2. School year 2010-2011 will be devoted to the planning and preparation of the 6th grade academy. What is most important to you during this planning process? Please list your top three priorities:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. What aspect of the plan for Jefferson do you find most compelling as you make decisions regarding your child's middle school?

4. Are there elements to strengthening Jefferson MS that we did not include in the proposed plan or that we should provide more detail on?

5. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?

Would you like to know more?

For more information, please visit <http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/building-on-momentum>

Or contact Claudia Luján at (202) 719-6598

Thank you for your input!

Please return this sheet to your child's school by Tuesday, June 22nd